

# ACT

*Indolentian*

## And Intimation, against Forestallers of Victual. &c.

**T**HE Justices of Peace of the Shire of *Edinburgh*, CONSIDERING the Excessive Prices, to which Victual of all Sorts have lately Arisen, and that it is Incumbent on them, by Vertue of their Office, to provide as much as in them lyes, for the Relief of the Poor; and to prevent the Dearth and Scarcity, so much to be Apprehended. As also that by severall, Laws and Acts of Parliament, it is provided, that none hold Victual to a Dearth; And that none hold more, than will sustain them, and their Meinzie, till new Corn. And that none hold Victual in Girnals save for their own Use; And also, that Corns are ordered to be Threshen out, and that all Victual for Sale, ought to be presented in Mercat. And further, that all Forestalling of Mercats, and Regrating, is most Expressly Prohibite; Specially by the Act of Parliament, *James 6th. Parliament 12, Chapter 148.* THEREFORE they have thought fit, to intimate, and require; Likeas they hereby intimate to, and require, all Havers of Wheat, Bear, Oats, and Pease within their Bounds, to Thresh out the same against the first day of *June* next, and that none retain more than for their own Use either in Barns, or BarnYards, Girnals, or Magazines: And that they observe the foresaid Acts of Parliament under the pain of Elcheat of the Victual, and other pains therein contained; And that they forthwith make the same forthcoming for Sale in Mercats, or at their Respective Girnals, Magazines, or Barns, to all that shall offer to Buy in manner after mentioned, and that on two days at least, *Wednesday* and *Saturday* of every Week, from Nine to Twelve in the Forenoon, beginning from the first of *June* next. AS ALSO, that they Sell out the Meal, Pease, and Bear, and give out the same in such small and Reasonable Quantities, not exceeding a Boll to any one person in the Week, as may best supply the present Necessity of the Countrie And that none presume to Buy more of these Grains at a time, (Declaring always that no Bear Sold to Brewers for Making is comprehended in this Act) AND ALSO the said Justices require, that none offer to Forestall or Regrate Victual, contrary to the said Acts of Parliament, or retain more than for the use of his Family & Servants, DECLARING hereby, That in case any Mealmaker or other Person shall buy up Corns of whatsoever Grain in the Roads, before it come to the publick Mercat, they shall be punished as Forestallers; and Certifieing such as shall Contraveen the foresaid Acts, and not observe this most necessary Intimation, that they shall be proceeded against, as Transgressors of the said Laws; with all Rigour, and that either before the Lords of Justiciary, Justices of Peace, or other Judges competent. And ORDAINS the Constables in their severall Districts, to go through and inform the Justices, of the Transgressors of this present Intimation, and to Cite them before the Justices, that they may be punished accordingly, or remit to the Lords of Justiciary. And ordains these presents to be Printed and Published, and Read by the Presenter in each Parish Kirk after Divine Service, and thereafter Affixt in all Mercat Places, and also at all Kirks and Kirk Doors. Given at *Edinburgh* the Eleventh day of *May* 1709.  
Extracted by  
By Order of the Justices,

*Al. Belschrs.*